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INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February 10, 1945

No. 97

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION. . . . On February 5 the Senate passed a bill to continue Commodity Credit Corporation as a Government agency, to increase its borrowing power, and to limit certain phases of the subsidy program. February 7--The House Banking and Currency Committee reported a similar bill which does not include the subsidy restrictions; the House passed a bill to protect the AAA acreage allotments of cotton and wheat producers who have shifted to war crops or who have entered the Armed Forces, also peanut producers who have entered the Armed Forces; the House passed a bill to appropriate an additional \$6,784,000 for the census of agriculture.

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PLENTIFUL FOODS. . . . Foods in good supply throughout the greater part of the country during March 1945 will be: Oranges, carrots, cabbage, apple butter, citrus marmalade, jellies; and grape, plum, and fig jams; dry-mix soups, dry edible peas; soya flour, grits, and flakes; wheat flour and bread; macaroni, spaghetti, noodles, and oatmeal. Dry pinto beans will be fairly plentiful in the Southwest, West, Midwest, and parts of the South. Eggs are not listed nationally for March, but there may be areas in the South and West where eggs will be plentiful. It is expected, too, that there will be a high consumer demand for eggs during the Lenten season.

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SUGAR BEET INDUSTRY and FEED FOR MAXIMUM MILK PRODUCTION are the subjects of an other transcription in the USDA Timely Farm Topics Series scheduled for cutting February 13. The scientific side of the sugar beet industry--improved varieties, how diseases are curbed, etc.--will be discussed by Ernie Moore and Duke DuMars on one side of the recording. On the other side Dr. R. E. Hodgson of the Bureau of Dairy Industry will talk about "Feed for Maximum Milk Production."

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PREPARATION OF GARDEN TOOLS. . . . Garden advisors of USDA are making the following suggestions for getting tools ready for the digging season now: Brighten rusty tools with kerosene and steel wool or emery cloth; sharpen tools now and keep them sharp all season (digging tools should not be sharpened to a sharp, thin edge); make handles on tools tight and smooth them with sandpaper. They also warn that dirt should be cleaned off tools after each using. (USDA 201).

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FLAXSEED GOALS CAMPAIGNS in all flax-producing states has gained impetus from the announcement that FCIC will insure the 1945 crop. Premium rates, normal yields, and other details of the program will soon be available at AAA county offices.

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CONSUMER TIME SHOW. . . . On February 17 homemakers and others can hear on this show why their favorite food flavorings are scarce. The story of why lemon flavoring has gone to war will be dramatized, and listeners will be taken to Mexico to hear how vanilla beans grow from orchids. The latest story on peppermint and menthol will be told, and a general resume on the food flavoring situation will conclude the program. On the February 24 Consumer Time program Merrill Mueller, well-known NBC War Correspondent, will give an exclusive report of the food situation in France.

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USDA RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE. . . . WFA announces OMS organization--211; Crop insurance available on 1945 spring wheat crop--213; 1945 early and intermediate potato price support schedule announced--214; Crop insurance on flaxseed in 1945--229; WFA announces canned poultry set aside--231; FCA activities for 1944--244; SCS reports year's progress--247; Canned vegetables equalization program extended to tomato products--248.

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OTHER RELEASES CONCERNING AGRICULTURE. . . . January "Disaster" allowances on certain vegetables is removed or reduced--OPA-5262; How new industrial users may obtain point allotments for lard, shortening, salad, and cooking oils--OPA-5254; Lower tire quotas for February--OPA-5212; Ceiling prices established for 1945 crop of sweetpotatoes--OPA-5255; Changes in wholesale and retail "Fixed Mark-up" dry grocery regulations is announced--OPA-5247; OPA establishes percentage limitations on slaughter of two top grades of cattle--OPA-5264; Firewood sold by farmers will be subject to price ceilings--OPA-5269; Price actions pertaining to eggs and egg products--OPA-5260.

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G. I. BILL PROCEDURE. . . . The administrative procedure on the farm loan guarantee feature of the G. I. Bill has been mimeographed and is available for limited distribution. It sets forth the purposes of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act and outlines the responsibility of Departmental Agencies in administering it. Copies are available from the Office of Information.

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HOW TO GET HELP IN BUYING A FARM is the title of a recently issued fact sheet which contains special information for returning servicemen. With reference to getting help under the G. I. Bill this fact sheet says: "The veteran must know how to farm, be able to locate a productive farm at a fair price, and be able to operate it on a sound basis. The bank, mortgage company or other lending agency from which the veteran expects to get his loan will help him to apply to the proper place to have his loan guaranteed." Copies of this sheet can be obtained upon request to the Office of Information.

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FAT SALVAGE. . . . A new policy statement is being prepared on the fat salvage program. Two fact sheets--one for rural, and one for urban, areas--are under way and will be distributed soon through usual channels.

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A PREVIEW OF VICTORY GARDEN RADIO PROGRAMS will be a part of the Farm and Home Hour program on February 17. This series of programs will begin March 3 and will continue through the 1945 Victory Garden season. Ruth Van Deman will be on hand with her usual up-to-the-minute Homemaker News and Information.

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FARM LABOR. . . . The supply of prisoner-of-war and foreign labor for farm work will be somewhat larger than last year according to current estimates. Mexicans, West Indians, and Newfoundlanders will be included among the imported farm hands and some Canadians are expected to again be available.

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SOME NEW DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS. . . . Cattle Grub Control, AWI-109, 6 pages; Chemical Impregnation of Trees and Poles for Wood Preservation, Circular 717, 30 pages; Food Consumption Levels in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom (Second report of a special joint committee set up by the Combined Food Board).

ABOUT 5,000 TONS OF FRESH VEGETABLES are expected to be harvested monthly from over 10,000 planted acres on Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, according to Foreign Economic Administration.

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SURPLUS CABBAGE. . . . A program is again under way to divert winter cabbage to sauerkraut, particularly in Texas and Florida.

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